

News Release
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Governor Huntsman Expresses Strong Opposition to Moving Mustard Gas Into Utah

Salt Lake City, Utah – Utah Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr., today came out in strong opposition to a military proposal to move mustard gas into Utah for disposal.

“There is no way this Governor will ever support transporting such toxic chemical weapons into Utah. We will utilize all means to prevent any quantity of mustard gas from moving into the State of Utah,” said Governor Huntsman. “This is a particularly dangerous chemical that hasn’t been used by the U.S. Army in warfare since World War I. The safest place to store mustard gas is within the secure confines of the Army base where it is currently stored. Conversely, the most dangerous option would be to ship the mustard gas interstate on a publicly accessible rail route through populated areas.”

The aging munitions are currently being stored near Pueblo, Colorado. Governor Huntsman supports Colorado’s bid to build an incinerator there to dispose of the chemical weapons.

“I made a campaign pledge to keep Utah from becoming a dumping ground for such potentially dangerous materials,” said Governor Huntsman. “And I don’t intend to back down from that position now.”

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